

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01990 170806Z

11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /105 W

----- 103094

R 161515Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6774

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 1990

VIENNA FOR FBIS

REF: PRAGUE 1933

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IMPRESSED OVER PAST FEW DAYS BY POSITIVE TONE OF CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS COVERAGE OF EVENTS STEMMING FROM PRESIDENTFORD'S ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE. MOST OF WHAT WE HAVE READ AND HEARD HAS BEEN COMPARATIVELY FAIR AND FACTUAL. THE DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSES OPEN TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN REALISTIC, AND THE CONFIDENCE IS CONTINUITY IN FOREIGN POLICY, PARTICULARLY EAST-WEST

POLICY, HAS BEEN STRONGLY STATED. A TYPICAL ARTICLE IN THIS RESPECT (SVOVODNE SLOVO AUGUST 13) CONCLUDED THAT THE RETENTION OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AUGURED WELL IN TERMS BOTH OF THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND OF THE PROBABLE COURSE OF US POLICY TOWARDS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRAGUE 01990 170806Z

THE SOCIALIST WORLD.

2. HHN CONTRAST TO GENERAL TREND, RUDE PRAVO HAD SEVERAL ARTICLES AUG 10-13 CRITICIZING VALUES OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND ETHICS OF AMERICAN POLITICIANS (SEE REFTEL). RUDE PRAVO OF AUG 13 HAD OFFENSIVE ARTICLE BY ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT MILOW KREJCI WHICH RAN BACK OVER US HISTORY IN NEGATIVE FASHION. (IN CALL ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VEJVODA TO DISCUSS FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION IN BRATISLAVA--A CONVERSATION OTHERWISE VERY FRIENDLY--CHARGE POINTED OUT UNHELPFUL ASPECT OF SUCH COVERAGE IN CONTRAST TO GENERALLY HEALTHY TONE OF PRESS.) LATER IN WEEK RUDE PRAVO SEEMED TO HAVE FALLEN IN LINE WITH REST OF PRESS, HOWEVER, WITH FACTUAL REPORTING EMPHASIZING LIKEIHOOD THAT US POLICY WILL REMAIN CONSISTENT AND POSITIVE IN DIRECTION OF DENTENTE AND GOOD RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST WORLD. ARTICLE IN AUG 16 RUDE PRAVO BY USUALLY AGGRESSIVE DUSAN ROVENSKY WAS MODERATE IN TONE, DISCUSSING PRIORITIES OF PRESIDENT FORD'S POLICIES IN STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER.

3. THE CRITICAL ARTICLES IN RUDE PRAVO, STANDING IN CONTRAST TO REST OF PRESS COVERAGE, DEMONSTRATE READINESS OF SOME ELEMENTS HERE TO COME OUT AGAINST US WHEN SOME OPPORTUNITY ARISES. WE BELIEVE FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK'S REPLY TO SECRETARY KISSINGER (STATE 179780; EMBASSY WAS AFFORDED COPY BY MFA) IS MUCH MORE INDICATIVE ILF MAIN DIRECTION OF CZECHOSLOVAK POLICY. THIS MESSAGE, TOGETHER WITH MOST PRESS COVERAGE HERE, INDICATE THAT CZECHOSLOVAK INTENTIONS CONTINUE STRONGLY TOWARDS FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. PERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DETENTE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974PRAGUE01990  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740227-0166  
**From:** PRAGUE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740841/aaaabixb.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** PRAGUE 1933  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT FORD'S ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CZ, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005